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DMT
2-2403

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mahalingham et al.
Serial No: 10/034,186
Filed: December 28, 2001
For: TOPICAL LIGHTENING COMPOSITONS AND METHODS OF USE
Examiner: Patricia Patten
Art Unit: 1654
Atty. Docket: 680.0054USU

RESPONSE

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 9, 2002, constituting a restriction requirement, please reconsider the present application in view of the following:

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 30 have been subject to a six-way restriction requirement that appears substantially similar to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed November 5, 2002. A difference between the Office Action mailed December 9, 2002 and the Office Action mailed November 5, 2002 is the characterization of the first group of restricted claims. In the Office Action mailed November 5, 2002, the first group was